Dilepton results from HADES using Au+Au data at 1.23 AGeV

MENU 2016 – July 25-30, Kyoto, Japan







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Phase diagram of matter: From the Big-Bang to the Neutron stars

• The main goal of Heavy-Ion Physics is to establish the nature of phase transitions in matter. Namely, under which temperature and pressure does matter deconfine and/or restore its chiral symmetry (mass degeneration)? The answers to these questions will surely improve our knowledge about the mass generation in hadrons



T. Galatyuk et al. (HADES Collab) Nucl. Phys. A931 (2014) 41-51

LQCD: Z. Fodor et al., hep-lat/0402006 Condensate: B.J. Schaefer and J. Wambach, private communication HADES data: M. Lorenz et al., Nucl. Phys. A(2014) QM14 A.Andronic et al., Nucl. Phys. A 837 (2010) 65 J. Cleymans et al., Phys. Rev. C 60 (1999_) 054908

Electromagnetic (EM) probes in Heavy-Ion collisions

- Why Dileptons?
 - They are emitted during the whole history of a Heavy-Ion collision
 - They leave the reaction volume (fireball) undisturbed: <u>no strong interaction within</u> <u>the fireball</u>



• The dilepton mass spectrum represents the space-time integral of EM radiation:



Mass dependence allows the separation of collision stages:

0.3 < M < 0.7 GeV/c²: strong correlation between thermal radiation and collective flow (*T. Galatyuk et al., Eur. Phys. J. A*, 52 5 (2016) 131)



1.5 < M_{ee}< 2.5 GeV/c²: accesses earlier stages and provides a <u>stable "thermometer</u>" (*R. Rapp and H. Van Hees, Phys. Lett.* B753 (2016) 586-590)

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The HADES experiment at GSI: Fixed target setup using <u>proton</u> (1-4 GeV), <u>pion</u> (0.4-2 GeV) and <u>nuclei</u> (1-2 AGeV) beams from SIS18

• <u>Spectrometer optimized for the search of rare probes</u>



- Dielectrons (supressed by α^2) \rightarrow BR $\sim 10^{-5}$
- Sub-threshold vector mesons



- **Fast detector** \rightarrow <u>interaction rate of 8 kHz</u>
- **Large acceptance:** $18^{\circ} < \theta < 85^{\circ}$ (*polar angle*) and full azimuthal coverage
- **Particle identification of** $p/\pi/K$ **:** dE/dx in MDC (*tracking*) and TOF/RPC (*time-of-flight detectors*)
- Particle identification of electrons: RICH (Ring Imaging Cherenkov) and TOF or RPC+Shower
- **Mass resolution** ~ 2% of M(ρ , ω)

The relevance of the Au+Au program of HADES: Collisions at $\sqrt{S_{NN}}$ =2.42GeV

• Great conditions to study the properties of hadrons within a dense baryon-rich medium:



• A strong modification of the ρ ($\tau \approx 1.5$ fm/c) spectral function is expected at high baryonic density:



Identification of Electrons and Positrons

- Relevant variables for the PID of leptons:
 - Particle velocity β
 - Particle momentum *p*
 - Energy Loss
 - Electromagnetic Shower
 - Track quality
 - Cherenkov radiation (emitted by particles traversing the RICH detector)



- All variables are combined in a multivariate analysis by a **Neural Network** (*NN*)
- The use of a NN improves the lepton efficiency, <u>specially at high-momentum</u>, due to the consideration of multidimensional correlations

Flowchart of the method used for the PID of leptons



Efficiency and Purity of the lepton selection

• Values of o₁ (<u>NN output</u>) close to 1 indicate tracks which are kinematically similar to the simulated leptons:



Two approaches to detect the Cherenkov radiation

1) Standard ring finder in the RICH detector via Hough transformation and pattern matrix (*S. Harabasz and C. Franco*). The angular matching between the ring centroid and the reconstructed track is used for the PID



2) Backtracking algorithm (P. Sellheim et al. (HADES Collab.), J. Phys. Conf. Ser. 599 (2015))

- A lepton candidate is selected using the velocity and energy loss of the reconstructed track and, thereafter, the expected ring center is determined from the track's angular information
- **Advantages of the method:** avoids the multiple scattering of leptons in the mirror, allows the overlaping of rings and <u>removes close pairs from *γ*-conversion in the detectors</u>

Dilepton reconstruction

• Definitions:

 CB (combinatorial background) is estimated from like-sign pairs:

• CB =
$$2\sqrt{N_{e+e+} \times N_{e-e-}}$$

- The <u>dilepton signal</u>, containing thermal dileptons and the hadronic cocktail, is given by:
 - Signal = $N_{e+e-} CB$



• CB is corrected for possible charge asymmetries in the spectrometer. **The correction is given by:**

$$k = \frac{N_{e+e-}}{\sqrt{N_{e+e+}N_{e-e-}}} \longrightarrow \text{estimated from mixed events}$$

The γ → e+e- (*photon conversion in the spectrometer*) contamination in the unlike-sign sample is removed by an opening-angle cut: θ(e+, e-) > 9 deg



Raw invariant mass spectra

Mass spectra corrected with the efficiency of the lepton selection (using simulated leptons embedded in real data)

- Good agreement between the two **AuAu** analyses
- The agreement with the 1/2(np+pp)spectrum in the π^0 -Dalitz region reflects the consistency of the tracks reconstruction in the "dirty" AuAu environment (up to 300 tracks/event)
- A strong enhancement of medium radiation is observed above 150 MeV/c²

The freeze-out cocktail

• Constraining the dilepton cocktail by measurements in the same experiment:

Comparison of different collision systems

• **Thermal radiation from the fireball** (normalized to the π^{0} multiplicity and subtracted from the contribution of η):

- The medium radiation emitted in *CC* (*HADES Collab.*, *Phys.Lett. B* 663 (2008) 43-48) collisions is already present in *NN* collisions
- Small excess of thermal radiation is observed in *pNb* (*HADES Collab.*, *Phys.Lett. B715* (2012) 304) for slow dileptons
- The dilepton enhancement is clearly visible for *ArKCl (HADES Collab., Phys.Rev. C84* (2011) 014902) and *AuAu* collisions. Moreover, <u>the medium radiation scales</u> <u>stronger than linearly with the system size</u>

Points to the importance of the regeneration of baryonic resonances within the medium

Description of the fireball evolution: Coarse-Graining hadron transport (*T. Galatyuk et al., Eur. Phys. J. A, 52 5 (2016) 131, F. Seck Master Thesis)*

- Theoretical description of the dilepton emission rates in HADES:
 - <u>Au+Au collisions are simulated with UrQMD</u> (Ultra Relativistic Quantum Molecular Dynamics)
 - The volume of the fireball is discretized in 21 x 21 x 21 space cells of 1 fm^3 and, thereafter, their evolution is analyzed in 30 time steps of $\Delta t = 1 fm/c$ (~ 280 k cells)
 - <u>For each cell the bulk properties are extracted</u>: T, μ_{B} and <u>collective velocity</u>. The dilepton rates are calculated from these inputs and then they are summed up for all cells

$$\frac{d^{3}N}{dMdydp_{t}} = \int_{t=0}^{\infty} \frac{d^{4}\varepsilon}{d\mathbf{p}} \left[T(\mathbf{x}), \mu_{B}(\mathbf{x}), \overline{v}_{coll}(\mathbf{x}), ... \right] d\mathbf{x}$$

Comparison between Coarse-Graining simulation and data

The dominant process for the dilepton production in HADES is the electromagnetic decay of N^{*}. <u>Assuming the VMD model and a parametrisation of the in-medium broadening of the ρ meson (Adv. Nucl. Phys. 25 (2000)</u>), the Coarse-Graining simulation gives:

Vector Meson Dominance

CG FRA: Phys. Rev. C 92, 014911 (2015) **CG GSI-Texas A&M:** Eur. Phys. J. A, 52 5 (2016) 131

REASONABLE AGREEMENT WITH EXPERIMENTAL DATA!

Testing the VMD assumption: data from π ⁻p collisions using a π ⁻_{beam} of 0.69 GeV/c

THE STRONG DEVIATION FROM UNITY CONFIRMS THE VALIDITY OF THE VMD MODEL

Lifetime and temperature of the fireball

• The centrality dependence of the dilepton excess indicates that <u>the most central collisions give</u> <u>rise to longer-lived and hotter fireballs</u>

Summary and Outlook

- HADES explores baryon rich matter at SIS18. The experiment has collected high quality data on dilepton emission from both Heavy-Ion and elementary collisions
- The excitation function of e⁺e⁻ from Au+Au data at 1.23 AGeV is now completed:
 - The data is well explained by the strong broadening of the ρ meson within the dense and "long-lived" fireball of HADES

• Outlook:

- **Now:** Upgrade of the HADES spectrometer for FAIR
- **FAIR phase 0** (2018-2019): Ag+Ag at 1.65 AGeV and proton/pion induced reactions
- **FAIR phase 1** *(SIS 100)*: Ag+Ag reactions at 3.5 AGeV

New detector for the Au+Au run: RPCs (*Resistive Plate Chambers*)

Excellent multi-hit time resolution!

HADES performance after the RPC upgrade

• Invariant mass spectrum with cuts optimised for kaon detection:

Charged pion reconstruction: π^0 multiplicity vs centrality

Dilepton transverse mass vs centrality of the Au+Au collison

• The slope of each distribution gives the corresponding <u>effective temperature</u>

